Rehabilitation Committee on railway bridges

758. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:
SHRI ABANI ROY:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kadalundi river bridge which collapsed under the impact of Mangalore-Chennai Mail in June, 2001 resulting in the death of several innocent persons, was written off in 1989 by Bridge Rehabilitation Committee;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not replacing the bridge; and

(c) whether Government propose to fix up responsibility in this case and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Wagons orders to a debarred company

759. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether release of orders for the year 2001-2002 had been withheld, pending enquiries in the non-use of specified steel by wagon builders;

(b) if so, when was the decision taken;

(c) whether Concor, a subsidiary of Indian Railways, was informed of the same;

(d) if so, how an order of 1320 container flat wagons was released to a company debarred from receiving orders from Indian Railways on the above allegations; and

(e) by when was the order placed by Concor on the debarred company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Decision was taken during last week on June, 2001.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) A show cause notice has been issued of M/s. Hindustan Development Corporation for use of non-specified steel in place of corten steel in manufacturing of wagons. Decision on the show cause notice will be taken after consideration of the reply from the firm. M/s. Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR) have issued Letter of Intent on M/s. Hindustan Engineering & Industries on 01.5.2001 and the order has been placed on 07.6.2001.

Procurement of Wagons

760. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the Ninth Five Year Plan target of procurement of wagons in FWUs;

(b) the wagons procured till March 2001;

(c) the short-fall in procurement against Ninth Five Year Plan target;

(d) the details of action taken to fulfil the target; and

(e) the wagon orders placed in 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) For the Ninth Five Year Plan period, wagon requirement was originally as 1,75,000 in terms of four wheeler units. However, due to decline in traffic growth, it was revised to 1,36,000 in terms of four wheeler units during mid term review. Recent reviews have, however, shown declining trend in wagon requirement.

(b) In the first four years of Ninth Five Year Plan, a total of 87,315.4 four wheeler unit wagons (FWUs) have been acquired.

(c) and (d) Full requirement of wagons has been purchased as per traffic needs and there is no shortfall as per the current requirement.